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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
KAZUO OKI ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :  
(Based on PCT NO:JP00/07874)  
FILED: HEREWITH : EXAMINER:  
FOR: PROCESS FOR PREPARING :  
FINE ZEOLITE PARTICLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copies following this amendment to read as follows.

6. (Amended) The process according to claim 3, wherein the aluminum source and the silica source are mixed in the circulating line at a mixing ratio of 0.1 to 3, as expressed by an  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  molar ratio.

7. (Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the aluminum source and/or the silica source are fed for reaction into the circulating line connected to the reaction tank.

8. (Amended) The process according to claim 3, wherein the fine zeolite particles have an average primary particle size of 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

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